

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24, bridging page 3, as follows:

A1
In accordance with the present invention, in a method of improving the transmission characteristic of an xDSL system that implements high-speed data communication over existing copper wires connecting an office and a subscriber, a testing system installed in an office ~~pulls~~ polls, before the connection of a subscriber line to the xDLS system, the subscriber line at the outside line of an xDSL circuit, measures the cross-talk noise characteristic of the subscriber line, and prevents, if the cross-talk noise characteristic is of high level, the subscriber line from being connected to the xDSL circuit.

Page 3, replace the paragraph beginning on line 8 as follows:

A2
Also, in accordance with the present invention, a system for measuring the transmission characteristic of an xDSL system that implements high-speed data communication over existing copper wires connecting an office and a subscriber includes a ~~pulling~~ polling device included in the outside line of an xDSL circuit, which is installed in an office, for ~~pulling~~ polling a subscriber line. A noise level measuring circuit measures the level of cross-talk noise on the subscriber line. A decision circuit

A2 determines, based on the level of cross-talk noise measured, whether or not the subscriber line is usable.

Page 5, replace the paragraph beginning on line 25, bridging page 6, as follows:

A3 As stated above, the illustrative embodiment pays attention to the fact that the frequency bands of various xDSL systems partly overlap each other, as shown in FIG. 1. Before connection of a subscriber line to the xDSL system, the testing system installed in an office ~~pulls~~ polls the subscriber line via the relays 12 connected to the outside line of an xDSL channel. The testing system then measures a noise level on the subscriber line, i.e., a cross-talk noise characteristic in the overlapping frequency range.
